

STAGE RAGE

Issue 141 - July 2022



- **❖** JERSEY BOYS
- Merchandise
- Obituary
- Fierce
- * Rumour Has it
- ❖ Theatre News









DIRECTOR - Phil Anstis

MUSICAL DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR - Barry Jones

VOCAL DIRECTOR - Kirsten Clark

CHOREOGRAPHER - Karen Ruske









CAST

FRANKIE VALLI – Josh Johnson

BOB GAUDIO - Frazer Lynn

TOMMY DEVITO - Asaria Saili

NICK MASSI – Lindsay Yeo

FRANKIE SWING - Connor Watson

BOB CREWE - Steve Jenkins

GYP DECARLO - Glenn Maskill

NORM WAXMAN - Ben Pryor

MARY DELGADO - Jessie Feyen

LORRAINE - Tamzin Price

FRANCINE - Leanora Potten

NICK DEVITO/ENSEMBLE - Mikaera Bassett

JOEY/ENSEMBLE - Tyler Purdy

ENSEMBLE

Terado Bassett, Kieran Murphy, John Manville, Camille Chemasle, Paris Kareko

BACKING VOCALISTS

Greg Dow, Caleb Lynch, Shane Brown, Rob Waayenburg, Matthew Lyne, Maryanne Kensington, Bridgette Lynch, Suzi O'Donnell



We are looking for some Front of House volunteers for *JERSEY BOYS*. If you are able to assist with this, please contact Michelle Luke on michelle@actthree.co.nz or mobile 021 997 757









Did you know ...

ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS has the following merchandise available to purchase on www.actthree.co.nz

T-Shirts





Polo Shirts





Hoodies



SW762L LADIES EASY FIT	XS	5	М	L	XL	2X	L	
GARMENT 1/2 CHEST (CM)	45.5	49	52.5	56	59.5	63		



	Standard Price	Members' Price
T-Shirt	\$25	\$ 20
Polo Shirt	\$40	\$ 35
Hoodie	\$ 50	\$45

These items can be purchased on the ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS website. However, to purchase at the members' price, please contact Jen Lambert (Administrator) on (06) 355 0499.









We take this time to send our sincere condolences to those members who have lost loved ones recently, specifically Jayne McQueen whose mother passed away on 8 July 2022.

After the tears have dried and the goodbyes have been said, all we have to hold onto are the happy memories that we've shared with our loved ones who have passed – this is what keeps them alive in our hearts and in our minds and they will continue to live on through us.





"And one day she discovered that she was fierce, and strong, and full of fire, and that not even she could hold herself back because her passion burned brighter than her fears."

(Mark Anthony)

Fierce captures the essence of the fire that burns within women to push and strive to be the best versions of ourselves. It is a kick ass, all female revue style show with the cast performing both female and male musical theatre songs from some of the hottest musicals on the planet, including

SIX, HAMILTON, DEAR EVAN HANSEN, WICKED, THE GREATEST SHOWMAN and RENT.

In the Manawatū we have a plethora of female performers and *Fierce* is about celebrating the diversity and talent of these wahine toa!

On stage at the Wallace Development Company Theatre 17 – 26 November 2022

(Members only presale from 12 August 2022 – watch your e-mails for the discount code.

On sale to the public from 28 August 2022.)

CAST

Phoebe Conger, Erica Ward, Val Andrew, Dana Borell, Shawanda Scanlon-Parker, Amy Hunt, Danielle McDonald, Jenna Baxter, Katie Monaghan, Tiya Blake-Ohlson, Riley Booth, Grace Costley, Kay Aish, Rowena Jones, Emma-Jade Mechen, Alex Dinniss, Emma-Katte Johnston, Jessie Feyen









GUYS AND DOLLS

New London Revival Set for 2023



by Shaun Tossell • 17 April 2022

A brand new revival of the classic musical GUYS AND DOLLS is reportedly heading to London in 2023, it has been rumoured. The brand new revival will reportedly be coming to an unexpected theatre.

GUYS AND DOLLS tells the story of desperate gambler Nathan Detroit and his exasperated fiancée of 14 years, Miss Adelaide. Detroit runs an illegal dice game whilst Miss Adelaide performs risqué numbers at a club. Desperate for money, Detroit bets fellow gambler Sky Masterson \$1,000 to take a doll of his choice to dinner. Accepting the bet, Masterson does not realise that the doll happens to be the pious Sarah Brown, Sergeant of the Salvation Army. This sizzling New York tale of gamblers, gangsters and nightclub singers (and a missionary) features some of Broadway's greatest show-stopping tunes, including "Luck Be a Lady", "Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat" and "My Time of Day".

Bat Out of Hell — The Musical Set for London Return

by Shaun Tossell • 2 May 2022

The award-winning Bat Out of Hell -The Musical is set to return to London, it is rumoured. The show will reportedly return to London for a limited run, as part of the current UK and Ireland tour, early next year. Bringing to life the legendary anthems



of Jim Steinman and Meat Loaf, this critically-acclaimed production uniquely combines the magic and excitement of a musical with the immense energy of rock 'n' roll. Join Strat, the forever young leader of rebellious gang 'The Lost', as he falls in love with Raven, the beautiful daughter of the tyrannical ruler of Obsidian. This award-winning wild child musical thunders through powerhouse hits including "I'd Do Anything For Love (But I Won't Do That)", "Paradise By The Dashboard Light", "Two Out Of Three Ain't Bad", "Dead Ringer For Love" and "Bat Out of Hell", in an exciting over the top theatrical spectacle unlike any other.

BEFTLEJUICE - West End Production Planned for 2023



The critically-acclaimed and beloved Broadway musical BEETLEJUICE will be heading to the West End in 2023, it has been rumoured.

Aspects of Love

The musical is reportedly set to come to London in early 2023. Based on Tim Burton's dearly beloved film, this hilarious new musical tells the story of Lydia Deetz, a strange and unusual teenager whose whole life changes when she meets a recently deceased couple and a demon with a thing for stripes. Beetlejuice has music & lyrics by Eddie Perfect with a book by Scott Brown and Anthony King. EVERYONE IN THE WEST END - SAY HIS NAME THREE TIMES!!!

Andrew Lloyd Webber's Aspects of Love Set for West End Revival

by Shaun Tossell • 1 May 2022

Andrew Lloyd Webber's Aspects of Love is reportedly set for a West End revival, it has been rumoured. Aspects of Love first premiered in the West End, at the Prince of Wales Theatre in 1989, making a star out of its leading man Michael Ball.

From the cobbled streets of Paris to the mountains of the Pyrenees, Aspects of Love is a sweeping, epic and heartbreaking love story spanning 17 years. Passion, desire, family ties and friendship bind six people and three generations together as they come to appreciate how love changes everything. Alex falls in love with the alluring actress, Rose Vibert. Following a little persuasion, Rose joins Alex at his Uncle's villa. As the pair embark on a steamy, passionate affair, the unexpected arrival of Uncle George changes all their lives – and those around them – forever. Featuring the iconic songs "Love Changes Everything", "Seeing is Believing" and more. Aspects of Love has music and book by Andrew Lloyd Webber with lyrics by Don Black and Charles Hart. It is based on the 1955 novella of the same name by David Garnett.







MJ THE MUSICAL – West End Transfer Plans



by Shaun Tossell • 4 June 2022

The Tony Award-nominated MJ THE MUSICAL has plans to transfer to the West End next spring, it is rumoured. Plans are reportedly in motion to bring the critically acclaimed new musical to the West End in spring 2023, with negotiations currently underway to secure a theatre. He is one of the greatest entertainers of all time. Now, Michael Jackson's unique and unparalleled artistry has finally arrived on Broadway in a brand-new musical. Centred around the making of his 1992 Dangerous World Tour and created by Tony Award-winning director and choreographer Christopher Wheeldon and two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Lynn Nottage, MJ goes beyond the singular moves and signature sound of the star, offering a rare look at the creative mind and collaborative spirit that catapulted Jackson into legendary status.

Olivier-Winning BACK TO THE FUTURE Musical to Arrive on Broadway in 2023

by Lindsey Sullivan • 22 June 2022

Theatre fans are going to want to time travel after hearing this news! A teaser has been released for *BACK TO THE FUTURE*, the new musical based on Robert Zemeckis' hit 1985 movie and it appears the production will officially arrive on Broadway in 2023. The musical follows the story of Marty McFly, a teenager who's accidentally transported back to 1955 in a time-travelling DeLorean invented by his friend, Dr Emmett Brown. The West end premiere stars Olly Dobson as Marty McFly, originally portrayed by Michael J Fox. Tony Award winner Roger Bart plays Emmett "Doc" Brown,



The London company of "BACK TO THE FUTURE"

(Photo: Sean Ebsworth Barnes)

originally portrayed by Christopher Lloyd. The staging won the 2022 Olivier Award for Best New Musical and received nominations for Best Original Score, Best Set Design, Best Lighting Design, Best Sound Design and for Dobson as well as Hugh Coles' performance as George McFly. BACK TO THE FUTURE, directed by Tony winner John Rando, features a book by Bob Gale and new music and lyrics by Emmy and Grammy winner Alan Silvestri (who scored many of Zemeckis' films) and Grammy winner Glen Ballard with additional songs from the film including "The Power of Love" and "Johnny B. Goode."

MARY POPPINS to Fly Out of the West End in January

by Caitlin Moynihan • 1 July 2022



Zizi Strallen in "MARY POPPINS"

(Photo: Johan Persson)

MARY POPPINS will play its final performance at London's Prince Edward Theatre on 8 January 2023. The Olivier-nominated revival first opened in October 2019 and is co-directed by Matthew Bourne with direction by Richard Eyre. It features original music and lyrics by Richard M Sherman and Robert B Sherman as well as new songs by George Stiles and Anthony Drewe. Academy Award-winning screenwriter and DOWNTON ABBEY creator Julian Fellowes wrote the book. "Over its 18 years on stage, each new production of MARY POPPINS has managed to speak to us in new, resonant ways - and never more than in this jewel of a production under Richard Eyre's loving oversight," said President and Producer of Disney Theatrical Productions Thomas Schumacher in a statement. "As they continue playing in productions around the world, Mary, Bert and the entire Banks family have still much to share - as Mary herself says, with a good deal of love." The cast is led by Zizi Strallen as Mary Poppins, Louis Gaunt as Bert and Petula Clark as the Bird Woman. The production features Olivier-winning set and costume designs by Bob Crowley, Olivier-winning choreography by Matthew Bourne and Stephen Mear, lighting design by Natasha Katz, sound design by Paul Gatehouse and orchestrations by William David Brohn.







Olivier-Winning COME FROM AWAY to Close in the West End

COME FROM AWAY will play its final performance at the West End's Phoenix Theatre on 7 January 2023. At the time of its closing, the Olivier-winning musical will have played 1,048 performances in London and 47 performances in Dublin. Featuring a book and score by Irene Sankoff and David Hein, COME FROM AWAY is based on the true story of when the isolated community of Gander, Newfoundland, played host to the world. What started as an average day in a small town turned in to an international sleepover when 38 planes, carrying thousands of people from across the globe, were diverted to Gander's airstrip on 11 September 2001. Undaunted by culture clashes and language barriers, the people of Gander cheered the stranded travellers with music, an open bar and the recognition that we're all part of a global family. The production opened in London in January 2019 and won Four Olivier Awards, including Best New Musical. The Broadway production will have its final performance at the Schoenfeld Theatre on 2 October. Apple TV+ released a filmed stage adaptation of the musical in September 2021.



The West End cast of "COME FROM AWAY (Photo: Craig Sugden)

The Simon & Garfunkel Story to run in the West End



The Simon & Garfunkel Story will return to the Lyric Theatre on 14 November. This musical evening takes audiences through the story of Simon & Garfunkel's incredible career. Having formed in 1957 as Tom & Jerry, Simon & Garfunkel went on to become the world's most iconic folk rock group. From their humble beginnings, right through their worldwide successes and bitter break-up, culminating with a stunning recreation of their 1981 Central Park reformation concert, audiences can re-live the moments that justified their 10 Grammy Awards and Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction. The production uses contemporary newsreels, adverts and film footage from the 1960s. Adam Dickinson and Cameron Potts play Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel respectively. The show features a full live band and brass ensemble and includes the hit songs "Mrs Robinson", "Cecilia", "Bridge Over Troubled Water", "Homeward Bound" and "The Sound of Silence".

AIN'T TOO PROUD - WEST END TRANSFER PLANNED

by Shaun Tossell • 28 June 2022

The Tony-Award winning musical Ain't Too Proud - The Life and Times of The Temptations is reportedly set to transfer to the West End, it has been rumoured. The smash-hit musical is reportedly set to open in the West End late 2022/early 2023. Ain't Too Proud is the electrifying musical that follows The Temptations' extraordinary journey from the streets of Detroit to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. With their signature dance moves and unmistakable harmonies, they rose to the top of the charts creating an amazing 42 Top Ten Hits with 14 reaching number one. The rest is history — how they met, the ground-breaking heights they hit and how personal and political conflicts threatened to tear the group apart as the United States fell into civil unrest. This thrilling story of brotherhood, family, loyalty and betrayal is set to the beat of the group's treasured hits, including "My Girl," "Just My Imagination," "Get Ready," "Papa Was a Rolling Stone" and so many more.





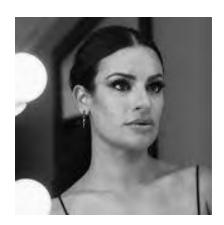






LEA MICHELE WILL STAR AS FANNY BRICE ON BROADWAY IN *FUNNY GIRL*

PAUL ART SMITH | 11 JULY 2022



After much speculation, it has been revealed that Lea Michele will star as Fanny Brice in the Broadway revival of FUNNY GIRL. Michele takes over from Beanie Feldstein, who announced that she'd be leaving the show on 31 July 2022. Michele is set to begin performances on 6 September 2022. Joining alongside her is Tovah Feldshuh, playing Rose Brice. Jane Lynch, who currently plays the role, will now play her final performance on 4 September 2022. Lea Michele, best known for playing Rachel Berry on six seasons of *GLEE*, returns to Broadway for the first time since originating the role of Wendla in *SPRING AWAKENING*. Michele will play the role seven performances a week, with current Fanny Brice standby Julie Benko playing the role on Thursdays. Benko will play Fanny Brice upon Feldstein's departure before Michele joins the show in September. Michele and Feldshuh join a cast that includes Tony and Olivier Award nominee Ramin Karimloo as Nick Arnstein. This bittersweet comedy is the story of the indomitable Fanny Brice, a girl from the Lower East Side who dreamed of a life on the stage. Everyone told her she'd never be a star, but then something funny happened—she became one of the most beloved performers in history, shining brighter than the brightest lights of Broadway.

MOVIE MUSICALS COMING SOON TO STREAMING AND THEATRES

PAUL ART SMITH | 12 JULY 2022

2021 was the year of the movie musical, with film releases like *In the Heights, tick, tick ... BOOM!* And *WEST SIDE STORY*, just to name a couple. This year, there are a few others to keep an eye out for, like *13* and *Matilda the Musical!* Check out below when these will be released, and a few other movie musicals coming up







13: The Musical



Eli Golden and the Cast of 13: The Musical

Based on the Jason Robert Brown musical that introduced us to names like Ariana Grande and Elizabeth Gilles, 13: The Musical is coming to Netflix this August in a new film adaptation. The cast includes acting veterans like Debra Messing, Josh Peck and Rhea Perlman alongside a cast of young newcomers playing the young NYC teens. Make sure to load it up on your Netflix queue when it premieres on 12 August 2022.

Pinocchio



Tom Hanks in Pinocchio

There's a new screen adaptation of *Pinocchio* on the way! Starring Tony Award nominee and entertainment legend Tom Hanks as Gepetto and Tony Award winner Cynthia Erivo as the Blue Fairy, the live-action adaptation of *Pinocchio* will premiere on Disney+ on 8 September 2022, featuring beloved songs like "When You Wish Upon A Star" and "I've Got No Strings" as well as new songs by Glen Ballard.

Matilda the Musical



Alisha Weir in Matilda the Musical

An adaptation of the musical written by Denis Kelly and with a musical score by Tim Minchin is heading to Netflix. Directed by Matthew Warchus, who directed the stage musical, and originally based on the Roald Dahl novel, *Matilda the Musical* tells the beloved story of Matilda Wormwood, an extraordinary girl, with a vivid imagination, who dares to take a stand to change her story with miraculous results. Starring Emma Thompson as the villainous Miss Trunchbull, the musical movie will premiere on Netflix.







The Color Purple



Danielle Brooks and Fantasia Barrino, Stars of The Color Purple.

Based on the musical adaptation that premiered on Broadway in 2005 and was revived to great acclaim in 2015, *The Color Purple* will come to the big screen in December 2023. Starring Fantasia Barrino as Celie and Danielle Brooks as Sofia, reprising the role they played on Broadway, *The Color Purple* cast includes names like Colman Domingo, Corey Hawkins, Taraji P. Henson, and H.E.R. Make a "joyful noise" when the movie musical is released 20 December 2023.

WICKED

After nearly two decades since it first opened on Broadway, the world "rejoicified" when it was announced that Cynthia Erivo and Ariana Grande would be playing Elphaba and Glinda, respectively, in Jon M. Chu's *WICKED* movie. A sense of bewilderment was brought on when it was later announced that the movie would be split into two parts, with the first part releasing in December 2024 and the second in December 2025. A lot remains to be seen with these films, such as further casting and a first look at the "witches," but everyone in the theatre world greatly anticipates its release.

Movie Musicals In Development

While these are the movie musicals with official casting announcements and release dates set, there are multiple musicals with film adaptations rumoured or confirmed to be in development.

It was announced last summer that Bill Condon would direct a new film adaptation of **GUYS AND DOLLS** but little information has been released since. Disney has also announced multiple musical projects including film adaptations of **The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee**.

Thomas Kail, best known as the Tony Award-winning director of **HAMILTON**, is also attached to some film adaptations. While it's been a few years since both were announced, Kail is set to direct remakes of **OLIVER!** And **Fiddler on the Roof**. Danny Strong is set to pen the screenplay for OLIVER!, which will star Ice Cube as Fagin, and Steven Levenson will write the screenplay for *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Chris Evans made headlines recently when he addressed the remake of *LITTLE SHOP OF HORROS* that was rumoured to be in development, with him starring alongside Scarlett Johansson, Taron Egerton and Billy Porter. Evans speaking with MTV News said he was set to begin filming in 2020, but the project ended up being scrapped during the COVID-19 pandemic. Maybe with enough fans pleading, the project could be picked up once again!

MEAN GIRLS is also set to hit screens once again, this time bringing the musical adaptation to film audiences. It was announced in September 2021 that husband-wife duo Arturo Perez Jr and Samantha Jayne will direct *MEAN GIRLS, THE MUSICAL* which will be produced by Lorne Michaels and Tina Fey, with the Broadway creative team on board featuring a screenplay by Fey, music by Jeff Richmond, and lyrics by Nell Benjamin. No information has been released since but we can't wait to see who will make the "world burn" on screen.





